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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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COVID vaccine dry run in city tomorrow

DHO and team attend video-conference meet with Additional Chief Secretary

The Primary Health Centre (PHC) at Jayanagar in Mysuru where the COVID vaccine dry run will be held tomorrow.

Mysuru, Jan.1 (SSV)- Jayanagar Urban Primary Health Centre (PHC) in city, K.R. Nagar Taluk Hospital and Bilikere 24x7 PHC in Hunsur Taluk are the three healthcare facilities in Mysuru District which have been selected to conduct dry run as part of the nationwide mock drill planned by Union Health Ministry to check preparedness for mass inoculation of COVID-19 vaccine to be decided shortly.

Mysuru District has been one among five districts in Karnataka that have been selected by Union Health Ministry for tomorrow's vaccine dry run.

Other four districts are: Bengaluru Urban (BBMP limits), Shivamogga, Kalaburagi and Belagavi. Close on the heels of selection of districts, State Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Jawaid Akhtar held a video-conferencing with Health Department officials of five districts and asked them to select three PHCs in each district with one Urban PHC.

The District officials were asked to prepare 25 staff members for each PHC for mock drill immediately and also to conduct training programme for them today at Offices of District Health Officer (DHO) in all five districts on their nature of job in tomorrow's dry run. Accordingly, training programme for Mysuru District health staff will take place at 2.30 pm today.

Talking to *Star of Mysore*, Dr. L. Ravi, District Reproductive and Child Health Officer and Nodal Officer for COVID-19 Vaccination, said as many as 25 'mock' vaccine beneficiaries have been selected in each Centre.

(See VACCINE on page 6)

Midnight hit-and-run case

Oil leak helps trace killer vehicle

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (RK&BCT)- With nothing more than pieces of shattered windshield discarded by the side of a road and a trail of leaking engine oil on the road, the V.V. Puram Traffic Police tracked down a speeding cab that rammed into a bike killing a 27-year-old youth last night. The vehicle was traced within one hour of the accident that occurred just after the clock struck 12 am, signalling the arrival of 2021.

Probably this was the first accident of 2021 involving a death that has been reported within the city limits. The Police doggedly pursued the case and was able to trace the hit-and-run vehicle. Now efforts are on to bring the cab driver to book.

(See OIL LEAK on page 7)

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HAPPY NEW YEAR
STAR OF MYSORE
Wishes a happy and prosperous New Year 2021 to all its readers, subscribers, advertisers, patrons, delivery boys, agents and well-wishers.
— Management

To Our Readers

Cadet Amit Raj | Anup Machaiah | Nanda Cariappa | K.M. Cariappa

Turn to Page-6 for Abracadabra titled *"Social media is important today: Media Houses suffer from deficiency of news service."* —Ed

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Friday 1st January 2021

Class 10 and 12 CBSE Board Exams from May 4

New Delhi, Jan.1 (Agencies)- CBSE Board Exams for Class 10 and 12 next year will begin from May 4, according to Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank.

While written exams would begin in May, practical exams would be held on March 1, Pokhriyal said during a live interaction on Twitter last evening.

"After several rounds of consultations, we decided that the board exams for Class 10 and 12 will begin from May 4 and will be over by June 10. We will try to do the evaluation in time and declare the results by July 15. Practical examination will begin from March 1," he said.

Pokhriyal said the decision to conduct the board exams in May was taken after consultation with other boards and keeping the pandemic situation in mind.

The exams were delayed by more than two months this year due to the pandemic. Typically, the exams begin in February and end in March.

The board received many appeals, from States, students, parents and teachers, seeking a delay in conducting the exams in view of the pandemic. Parents asked for the delay so students could have time for one-on-one interactions with teachers once schools reopen.

Some also asked for the board exams to be conducted in an online mode, but the CBSE earlier clarified that the exam will take place as it usually does, in an offline mode. The date sheets for both Class 10 and 12 will be issued soon, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), that conducts the exams, said in a statement.

AICTE extends date to fill up vacant engineering seats in State

Bengaluru, Jan.1 (SSV)- Responding to Karnataka's plea, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has extended the last date till Jan. 15 for admitting students against vacancies for all engineering courses.

In a press release here, Deputy Chief Minister and Higher Education Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayana has said this has paved the way to conduct one more round of counselling. The Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) would announce the date of counselling very soon. Opportunity would be given for the last time to surrender the seats for those students who have already secured seats for engineering courses but who do not wish to get admitted for the course. But, students who get the seat in the coming mop-up round would not be a given chance to surrender their seats. They would have to get enrolled by paying the stipulated fee or else they would have to pay a fine of five times the fee, he added.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

With everything that happened in 2020, including an unprecedented epidemic, the world went through a tumultuous time. People said to me – 'we feel so guilty to celebrate the New Year.' I said, you know, you feel guilty when your celebration is aimed at gratifying yourself. But if your intent is to uplift everybody around you, when you see that your neighbours are feeling low, anxious and depressed and you want to make them feel better and more peaceful, bring them out of the gloomy space, then such a celebration is a service. Doing service brings out the best in us. It helps to refine our good qualities, be in touch with values of compassion, kindness, and connection. When your celebration becomes your service, there is no guilt in it. And when your service becomes celebration, there is no ego or pride in it. So let us celebrate with this one intention — to bring home this knowledge to everyone that life and events of the world are impermanent. Real celebration happens when there is total acceptance of nature. So that is what we should do on New Year's Eve and Day. We honour time, life and creation and thank the divine for what the past year has given to us. The past year has given many lessons and New Year 's Eve is the time to reflect on these lessons. Welcome with open hearts the New Year 2021 and the wisdom, health, happiness and prosperity it is about to bring. Wish for wisdom in life more than anything else because when there is wisdom, happiness follows spontaneously. — *Sri Sri Ravi Shankar in The Times of India*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Artist carves intricate carpet into wooden floor

Madrid: Selva Aparicio, a talented Spanish artist whose thought-provoking works tackle a variety of topics, from politics to the environment. Aparicio spent days hand-carving an intricate carpet pattern into a discarded wooden floor and the result was so realistic that people only realized it wasn't a real carpet only when they got close.

"I presented this installation as my thesis during my MFA at Yale University. Rugs are typically adorned with sacred gardens and oases, and can be moved around the home. This rug stayed put, quietly participating in years of familial abuse. This installation is about covering and exposing, trauma, and bearing witness. My memories are permanently etched, so the soft fabric is represented in hand-carved scars on discarded wood flooring," Aparicio said.

Largest Sea Slug that looks like an alien

California: Measuring up to 99-centimeters-long, and weighing up to 14 kilograms, Aplysia vaccaria, also known as the black sea hare or California black sea hare, is the world's largest sea slug.

Aplysia vaccaria, is a very rare sight, even if one lives near its very limited habitat – off the coast of California and in the Gulf of California – as it only ventures into shallow water to lay eggs. Like most other sea slugs, these giant mollusks are herbivores, with brown algae and kelp making up most of their diet. The color of the plants the slug east determines its own color, which is why it is black or dark brown, while other member of the Aplysia family are reddish or green.

Apart from its impressive size, the California black hare – so called because of the two ear-like protrusions that grow out of its head – is also known for its defense mechanisms.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Apples Give You More Energy Than Coffee

If you are ever a little low on energy during the afternoon, then consider munching an apple instead of making a cup of coffee. Apples are loaded with fiber, vitamin C and minerals.

By Kavya. J - Department of Dietetics & Nutrition

COLUMBIA ASIA

COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

COVID-19 UPDATE

Mysuru

Figures as per Government Media Bulletin released last evening

Positive cases yesterday	:	48
Total positive cases	:	52,394
Discharges yesterday	:	50
Total discharges	:	50,937
Deaths yesterday	:	2
Total deaths	:	1,015
Total active cases	:	442

Mandya

Positive cases yesterday	:	14
Total positive cases	:	19,432
Total discharges	:	19,138
Total deaths	:	147
Total active cases	:	147

Chamarajanagar

Positive cases yesterday	:	6
Total positive cases	:	6,776
Total discharges	:	6,566
Total deaths	:	119
Total active cases	:	80

Kodagu

Positive cases yesterday	:	14
Total positive cases	:	5,742
Total discharges	:	5,572
Total deaths	:	71
Total active cases	:	99

Hassan

Positive cases yesterday	:	6
Total positive cases	:	28,006
Total discharges	:	27,383
Total deaths	:	393
Total active cases	:	230

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Math teacher: *Tell me Jenny, if a milkman mixes 2 litres water and 1 litre milk, he will get 3 litres. What will happen if he mixes 6 litres of water and 3 litres milk?*

Jenny: *I am not a milkman, how can I solve it?!*

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 73.10
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 99.31
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 19.90
1 Euro	= Rs. 89.90

VOICE OF THE READER

Where and how to park vehicles?

Sir,

Haphazard parking of vehicles, especially two-wheelers and four-wheelers, on city roads and in Highways has become a nuisance. It looks like vehicle users either do not have knowledge about the basic parking rules or do not want to follow it.

We should not park vehicles in bus bays, close to bus stops, road corners, near intersections or roundabout, and on the footpaths. In two-way roads, vehicles need to be parked only on the left side in the direction of the traffic flow. Vehicles always be parked close to the curb of the footpath or edge of the road.

Secondary parking (parking beside or behind an already parked vehicle) is banned as it becomes impossible to take out an already parked vehicle.

While parking at nights, parking as far as possible in a lighted area is advisable and where there are no street lights, switching on the parking lights helps to know about the parked vehicle on the road. Vehicles should be parked on the road in such a way that it will not obstruct the movement of the other vehicles on the road.

Vehicles in any way should not be parked on the wrong side of the road, as it obstructs the movement of other vehicles while parking and taking out from the parking area. Vehicles in no case should be parked in 'no parking areas' or prohibited zones. Wherever service roads are available, it is preferred to park in the service roads rather than parking on the main road or Highways.

In case of an emergency or breakdown, parking lights should be switched on or barricading with tree branches or indicator boards are to be kept to indicate other road users about this.

Whether it is at crossroads or interior roads, vehicles should never be stopped or parked on pedestrian crossings. We should not park our vehicles in front of the entrance gates of residences, commercial establishments, or public buildings or places.

Finally, parking of four-wheelers in a two-wheeler parking slot or vice-versa attracts penalty, therefore, to be avoided and public cooperation is necessary to have smooth flow of traffic on the roads.

—Dr. S. V. N. Vijayendra,
Traffic Warden

Mysuru
28.12.2020

Clear footpath encroachments

Sir,

On behalf of the tax-paying citizens, I appeal to the MCC and Mysuru Traffic Police to clear the footpaths and some parts of the roads occupied by the merchants. Some merchants have displayed their materials on the road as well.

If both footpaths and roads are encroached by the shop-keepers and traders, where should the people walk?

—Venkat

Mysuru
17.12.2020

"Shram Dhaan" along Chamundi Hillsteps by Ex-Servicemen on Jan. 3

Mysuru, Jan. 1- To begin this New Year 2021 in a meaningful and positive manner, the members of Mysuru Ex-servicemen Movement (MEM) jointly with VeKare Ex-servicemen Trust and Sainik Academy, Mysuru, has organised a "Shram Dhaan" on Jan.3.

As part of "Shram Dhaan," the members will climb the 1,000 steps leading from Chamundi foothill to Chamundeshwari Temple atop the Hill cleaning the surroundings of the hillsteps by picking up all used and thrown plastic bags, empty bottles, plastic cups and discarded footwear etc., from 7 am.

The members will assemble at 6.45 am at the foothill. Interested military veterans and general public too may participate in the "Shram Dhaan" symbolically and encourage the members of MEM in their concern for a clean and good environment. Wearing of mask and maintaining social distancing is a must for all the participants.

MEM is an association of military veterans and one of its main objectives is to serve society by taking up community service apart from projecting the problems and just causes of Ex-servicemen.

For details contact Air Veteran M.N. Subramani, Honorary Legal Advisor, MEM and President, VeKare Ex-Servicemen Trust on Mob: 99001-01047.

Online Horticulture Fair from tomorrow

Mysuru, Jan. 1- An online Horticulture Fair (Totagarike Mela) 2020-2021 will jointly be organised by University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot and College of Horticulture in Mysuru from Jan. 2 (tomorrow) to Jan. 4.

The theme of the Mela will be Horticulture for Health and this theme gains prominence as the year 2021 has been declared as the International Fruits and Vegetable Year. The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), has launched the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables 2021 (IYFV) with an appeal to improve healthy and sustainable food production through innovation and technology and to reduce food loss and waste. Due to prevailing contagion atmosphere, the Horticulture Fair will be held both through online and offline and limited number of farmers and horticulturists would be invited for the Mela. Guests can visit the Mela to know about the latest technology in horticulture.

Interested people, horticulturists, students and farmers can also visit the online links to share knowledge about horticulture and related technologies. *https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTt-u1KmA-Jc6QizQlylvD0ghttps://www.facebook.com/uhsbagalkot.edu.in, https://www.facebook.com/uhsbagalkot.edu.in/live* are the links to be followed for online updates. The Mela will also find publicity in the website of University of Horticultural Sciences Bagalkot *https://www.uhsbagalkot.edu.in/*

Power disruption

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (KS)- Owing to emergency maintenance works taken up at V.V. Mohalla Sub-Division Power Distribution Centre, power will be disrupted tomorrow (Jan. 2) between 11 am and 6 pm at Police Layout 1st Main Road to 16th Main Road and Idly Katte surrounding places, according to a press release from N.R. Mohalla CESC Executive Engineer.

ಶ್ರೀ ಚಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಮೃಗಾಲಯ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಎಂವೈಜಡ್./ಎಸಿಟಿ/Hos.Equipment/2020-21
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.12.2020 (2ನೇ ಕರೆ)
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಶ್ರೀ ಚಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಮೃಗಾಲಯದ ಪ್ರಾಣಿ ಪಕ್ಷಿಗಳ ರಕ್ತ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಮಾಡುವ ವಸ್ತುಗಳ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡಲು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ (https://eproc.Karnataka.gov.in) (Dept.Selection: Zoo Authority) ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ, ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವ ಹೆಸರು: Supply of High performance portable Color Doppler Ultrasound Unit for Zoo Hospital inside Zoo Gardens, Mysuru. ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊಬಲಗು: Rs.65,000/- ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಭರ್ತಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ:11.01.2021 ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (Two Cover System)
ಸಹಿ/- ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
DIPR/DDMYS/MCA/824/2020-21 ಶ್ರೀ ಚಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಮೃಗಾಲಯ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

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NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Superintending Engineer, BHABHA Atomic Research Centre, Mysore invites for & on behalf of the President of India, item rate tenders in two parts from eligible contractors for those having adequate experience and capabilities to execute similar works of such magnitude as detailed in this tender.

No.	Description	Details
1	Tender Reference No.	BARC/MYS/AM/CDK/2020/WT-01
2	Name of work	Instrumentation & software development work: Upgradation of vibration analyzer system
3	Estimated Cost	Rs. 36 Lakh /- (Rupees thirty six lakh only)
4	Earnest Money Deposit	NIL , Bid security declaration may please be furnished as per format enclosed in NIT. Non compliance of bid security declaration would amount to suspension from bidding for this tender and also future tenders for a period of one year or as decided by superintending engineer or chief engineer.
5	Period of Completion	4 calendar months.
6	Tender Sale Period	From 29.12.2020 (1100 hrs)/ To 12.01.2021 (1500 hrs)

Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting Tender(NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details,which can be downloaded from web site www.barc.gov.in

Sd/-
(Superintending Engineer)
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre Mysuru
For & on behalf of the President of India

NEWS BRIEFS

Public auction of vehicle on Jan. 5

The Department of Prisons will auction an old Swaraj Mazda Vehicle (KA-01 G-8266) belonging to the Department, in Mysuru Central Jail premises at 11.30 am on Jan. 5, 2021. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2492089.

Calling hearing impaired

The Department for the Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens has invited applications from hearing impaired persons of Mysuru district for distribution of sewing machines. Hearing impaired persons with a minimum qualification of a pass in SSLC are eligible to apply. The application forms are available at the Department office and the last date to apply is Jan. 12, 2021. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2490333, according to a press release.

Grameen Dak Sevaks

The Department of Posts has invited online applications from eligible candidates for appointment as Grameen Dak Sevaks (78 posts) in Nanjangud Postal Sub-Division of Mysuru district. The candidates must have passed SSLC. The age limit for General category candidates is 18 to 40 years. The upper age limit is relaxable by 5 years for SC/ST candidates, 3 years for OBC candidates and 10 years for Persons with Disabilities (PWD). The application fee for General Category and OBC candidates is Rs. 100. However, there is no application fee for women, transgender, physically challenged and SC/ST candidates. Interested candidates can apply online through *http://appost.in/gdsonline*, before Jan. 20, 2021, according to a press release.

KRS Water Level

(Maximum : 124.80 feet)

Today	118.74 ft
Yesterday	118.79 ft
Inflow	923 cusecs
Outflow	2,313 cusecs

Kabini Level

(Maximum : 2,284.00 feet)

Today	2,271.25 ft
Inflow	312 cusecs
Outflow	250 cusecs

Harangi Level

(Maximum : 2,859.00 feet)

Today	2,819.75 ft
Inflow	173 cusecs
Outflow	30 cusecs

'Lack of political will responsible for non-inclusion of Kurubas in ST list'

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (MTY&DM)- Regretting that lack of political will had hindered the inclusion of Kuruba community in the Scheduled Tribes (ST) list, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) Minister K.S. Eshwarappa assured that he will discuss the issue with BJP leaders and make all efforts to see that Kurubas get ST tag.

He was addressing Kuruba community leaders at a meeting jointly organised by Kuruba ST Horata Samiti, Kaginele Kanaka Gurupeetha, Karnataka Pradesha Kurubara Sangha and other organisations at Kanaka Bhavan in Siddharthanagar on Tuesday.

Promising that he will make efforts to wake up the Centre on Kuruba ST tag, Eshwarappa expressed the hope that this time, the demand will be met by the Centre. Stressing on the need for increasing ST reservation in jobs and education to 15%, he said that Kurubas will seek 8.5% for the community out of this.

Explaining his stand on taking active part in ST reservation campaign while being a Minister, Eshwarappa asserted that being in power will help him in taking up the issue with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other top party leaders.

Stating that ST reservation campaign has been launched under the leadership of community Seers, he maintained that RSS has no role in the campaign. Dismissing the allegations that RSS was dividing the community, he said that he is associated with the RSS for decades and the organisation will never indulge in dividing the society.

MLC and former Minister A.H. Vishwanath said that though Opposition Leader and former Chief Minister Siddharamaiah was supportive of the cause, some others were using his name to oppose the ST status.

Highlighting the need for the community to grow politically, economically and academically, for which reservation is necessary, Vishwanath said that co-operation is the need of the hour and not dissenting voices.

Recalling the role of Kanaka Gurupeetha in uniting the community, he observed that Siddharmaiah would not have become the CM had he not got wholesome support of the community. Explaining the need for continuing the struggle for ST tag, Vishwanath reiterated that reservation is a must for the all-round progress of the community, which has remained economically backward.

Former Minister & senior Congress leader H.M. Revanna said that the Gazette published by the Government in 1868 clearly says that the Kuruba community was under ST list in the pre-independence days. But it is unfortunate that the community has failed to convince the Centre on this point.

However, the struggle for ST status has now taken shape under the leadership of K.S. Eshwarappa, he said and added that the community is in constant touch with former CM Siddharamaiah on the issue to seek his advice and suggestions.

Kaginele Hosadurga Shakha Mutt Seer Eshwaranandapuri Swamiji, in his address, clarified that the struggle was not against any individual but for the cause of the community. Pointing out that the community members are in a pitiable condition in most parts of Northern Karnataka, he called for unity among the community at this important time.

The meeting resolved to take out a Padayatra from Kaginele, the Kanaka Gurupeetha Headquarters in Haveri to Bengaluru on Jan. 15 to press the Government for announcing ST status for Kuruba community. It was also decided to organise a massive convention of community members at Bengaluru on Feb. 7 as a show of unity and strength.

Former MPs C.H. Vijayshankar and Virupakshappa, Kaginele Mysuru Shakha Mutt Seer Shivanandapuri Swamiji and community leaders were present.

Earlier, guests were given a 'Poornakumbha' welcome at the venue.

MLA regrets decline in reading habits

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (PM&DM)- Regretting that reading habits is on the decline in the society, Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda said that people should enhance their knowledge by reading books.

He was speaking after releasing senior Journalist Amshi Prasannakumar's works 'Kalavalokana' and 'Mane-Managala Kathe' at a programme organised by District Kannada Sahitya Parishat at Sahitya Bhavan in Vijayanagar First stage here on Wednesday.

Noting that politicians too have lost interest in reading books, G.T. Devegowda recalled an instance when veteran writer Dejagow had advised him to read books in order to understand the Constitution and thoughts of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

Bemoaning the deteriorating standards in the Legislature, the MLA touched upon the recent ruckus in the Legislative Council, which he said had brought shame to the State Legislature.

Stating that the Executive is no different with standards declining in Bureaucracy, he said that even the Judiciary is not left alone.

Noting that most of the youths entering the field of Journalism are lacking in professional talent and skills, the MLA said 'Patrika Dharma' still exists only because of journalists like Amshi Prasannakumar.

Recalling his association with Amshi Prasannakumar since the days when he (GTD) became the Mysuru APMC Vice-President, he said that the APMC was a model to the entire State then.

Senior writer Prof. H.S. Umesh spoke about the work 'Kalavalokana,' while Prof. Govindaraju Lakshmipura spoke about the work 'Mane-Managala Kathe'.

Kannada Book Authority Chairman Dr. Nandish Hanche was the guest of honour.

Srinivas of Mahima Publishers, District Kannada Sahitya Parishat Mysuru President Dr. Y.D. Rajanna, Treasurer Rajashekar Kadamba, Chief Convenor Muguru Nanjundaswamy, the author Amshi Prasannakumar and others were present during the programme.

Senior journalist Amshi Prasannakumar's works *Kalavalokana, Mane-Managala Kathe* released

MUDA to form Vigilance Squad

to protect its property from land sharks

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (RK&SSV)- To protect property from land grabbers by fudging documents, Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) has decided to constitute a Vigilance Squad on the lines of Bangalore Development Authority (BDA). "A proposal to this effect has been sent to State Government and expected its approval soon", said H.V. Rajeev, Chairman, MUDA.

H.V. Rajeev

Addressing a news conference here yesterday, he said the Vigilance Squad would be headed by a Police Officer of the rank of Deputy Superintendent and consists of two Sub-Inspectors, two Head Constables, six Constables, a Surveyor, a Revenue Inspector and a Village Accountant. This had been already discussed in the MUDA meeting held on November 6 last year and forwarded the proposal to the State Government.

"Recently, I and MUDA Commissioner Dr. D.B. Natesh met Home Minister Basavaraja Bommai, Co-operation and District Minister S.T. Somashekar in Bengaluru and had requested them to give permission to have Vigilance Squad in MUDA. The duo has promised to consider the proposal soon. The squad members will not only protect MUDA property but it will also demolish those encroached by land sharks", Rajeev said.

Verification of documents

The Chairman said a separate section has been opened in MUDA for verification of documents to help citizens who plan to buy sites in city in the wake of increase in cheating cases. The site buying public must submit the photo copies of all documents related to property at the separate section and pay prescribed fee. The section officers would take one week's time to match with the original documents available in MUDA and then certify whether the property papers were real or fake. If property documents were prior to 1987, then officers would take 15 days time due to physical verification of files. This facility had been functioning for the last so many years but the public was not making use of it. Now, more number of people were coming to this section with property papers for verification, he added.

Mystery shrouds woman's death; Cops interrogate husband

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (YDS&KS)- Alanahalli Police have taken a man into custody for interrogation following the death of his wife under mysterious circumstances on Tuesday and complaint from the deceased's father.

The deceased has been identified as Netravathi (35), wife of Harsha, resident of Giridarshini Layout in city. The body of Netravathi was found with a saree tied around her neck.

A native of Nanjangud, Netravathi was given in marriage to Harsha of Halagur in Malavalli taluk and the couple has a 11-year-old daughter. While Netravathi was staying in a rented house at Giridarshini Layout along with her daughter and working at a garment factory in Metagalli here, her husband Harsha is working as an Office boy in Bengaluru and used to come to Mysuru now and then.

In his complaint, Netravathi's father has accused Harsha of assaulting Netravathi on Tuesday besides strangulating her to death. Based on the complaint, Alanahalli Police have registered a murder case, taken Harsha into custody and interrogating him.

KSPCB officials raid, seal illegal dyeing unit in city

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (YDS&KS) - The officials of Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), who raided an illegal dyeing unit yesterday, have sealed the unit and three workers have been handed over to Police custody. Following a tip off that an illegal dyeing unit was functioning at the godown on Ring Road near Alanahalli Police Station, KSPBC officials raided the unit during which owner of the dyeing unit is said to have fled from the spot. According to Environmental Officer Prakash, one John Kennedy had taken the place, where a rice mill was functioning earlier on lease and was running the illegal dyeing unit.

Senior Environmental Officer Niranjan, Deputy Environmental Officer Ramesh and staff took part in the raid. Based on the complaint from KSPBC officials, Alanahalli Police have registered a case against John Kennedy and others.

Action plan will take MyLAC to newer heights: MP

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (MTY&BCT)- City-based Mysore Paints and Varnish Limited (MPVL), also known as MyLAC, a key player in the Indian Democratic process, was one of the innumerable contributions to the society by the erstwhile Wadiyars. The Company has grown in leaps and bounds and has got international recognition and if a proper growth plan is made, there is no doubt that there will be world-wide demand for MPVL's indelible ink.

These were the words of Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha while releasing 2021 calendar and diary brought out by MPVL at its premises recently.

The company was established in 1937 by Maharaja of Mysore Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar in the name of Mysore Lac and Paints Limited and was renamed as Mysore Paints and Varnish Limited later. The company which is owned by Government of Karnataka has also been exporting the indelible ink to countries like Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, South Africa and Afghanistan, he noted.

MyLAC's indelible ink was used for the first time in the 1962 elections, he said and added that the ink has become a permanent feature in all the polls held since then. "We only have read about the glory of the Vijayanagar Empire where gold, rubies and diamonds were abundantly available cheap on roadsides and thoroughfares. We are practically a witness to various welfare schemes, projects and establishments launched by the Wadiyars as they are serving the society even now and institutions like MyLAC are carrying forward the Wadiyar legacy," the MP said.

Pratap Simha

Phaneesh

Continuing, Pratap Simha said that the airport at Mandakalli was first built by the Wadiyars for their private use. "Jayachamaraja Wadiyar had purchased a light aircraft and when the Mysore Kingdom was acceded to India, he gave away the aircraft for public good," he noted and called upon MyLAC authorities to come up with a development-oriented action plan and take the Public Sector Unit to newer heights.

MLA L. Nagendra said that MyLAC is remembered only during the time of elections. "We all tend to forget it after elections. But we must realise that despite advances in technology, other companies have not been able to produce such an indelible ink that MyLAC produces," he said.

MyLAC Chairman N.V. Phaneesh too recollected the contribution of Wadiyars and said efforts would be made to continue the legacy and at the same time maintain the quality, uniqueness and distinctness of MyLAC ink.

MyLAC Managing Director Chandrashekar Doddamani, General Manager C. Harakumar and others were present.

A New Year ! A New Change ! An Evolution !

Needle Works is now officially

JAYANTHI BALLAL

SINCE 2002

First flagship store in Mysuru

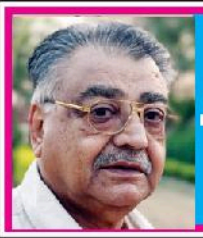
New Store | Better Collections | Familiar Hospitality

Jayanthi ballal, is a name that has travelled around India, and has resided in the heart of Mysore for almost 18 years now. The brand exhibits an exquisite range of well crafted products, that captures the essence of Mysore and its heritage. With the brand name evolving from name Needle works to Jayanthi Ballal, we aspire and strive to take the brand to a whole new level.

The needle and the thread, the duo that gives life to every garment, and a livelihood to everyone that strives to make it happen, represents the brand. We heartly welcome you all to be a part of this new step we have taken. Stay tuned for more updates.

462, 6th Main Road, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, Mysuru-570 017

Ph : 0821-2334779



Abracadabra...

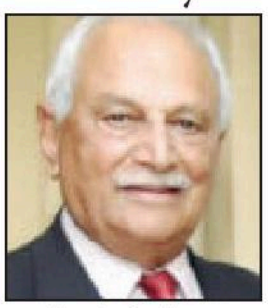
By K.B. Ganapathy

Social media is important today

Media Houses suffer from deficiency of news service

Cadet Amit Raj

Anup Machaiah



Nanda Cariappa

K.M. Cariappa

We all know that so and so actress is expecting a second child. We know that another Bollywood star is expecting her first child. We also know which actor wears which designer clothes.

But do we care to know who was Cadet Amit Raj? We don't.

I don't completely blame you for this. We all waste our news appetite on junk news which never adds any value to our society.

On 7th December, Cadet Amit Raj of Sainik School, Purulia, was at his hometown in Bihar when he heard people shouting in the neighbourhood. He stepped out to see that a neighbouring house was on fire.

Without thinking twice he entered the house to save three children who were trapped inside. He sustained 85 percent burns by the time he saved the first two children but still decided to save the third one.

He was in no condition to save the third child but still entered the house to save the child even though it resulted in him receiving 95 percent burns himself. He was admitted to a nearby hospital and was later shifted to Delhi. The braveheart lost his life on 13th December. Not even single media house covered this story. Such a shame. Even Google will not throw much information about this incident.

Let us individually honour these souls by using the power of **social media.** Because only this will help us imbibe the values of sacrifice that can build a #New_India.

Om Shanti.

The above item was forwarded to me a couple of days back by a senior citizen and realised it was a vindication of what I wrote in this column on 24th December under the title "*Of Journalism and Journalists !*" **Human interest** stories are important for media because they have lessons for humanity on tolerance, love, compassion, ethics, and above all about the courage one must have to sacrifice one's life for saving the life of others, helpless and desperate.

As is said, love means sacrifice. Love has no meaning if it does not have the quality of sacrifice. That is what Cadet Amit Raj has shown to us. But, alas, none of our journalist-friends thought it "good news" to print or telecast. Those who might have taken it, must have treated it as spot news and thus got into the **social media;** probably after days of travelling, landed on my cellphone and became a subject for this *Abracadabra*.

I recall two such cases of extraordinary bravery where the Good Samaritan had saved life in the face of imminent risk to his own life. One is an incident that happened on Kalidasa Road. There was and is a very popular restaurant patronised mostly by youngsters known as "Top Stuff." The tragic news breaks in *Star of Mysore*, on 25th December 2009 with the headline "*Gas leak: 6 persons including restaurant owner injured.*" Then on Jan. 11, 2010 another headline in *Star of Mysore*, "*Top Stuff owner Anup Machaiah passes away.*" He was the only one who died following severe burn injuries as he was continuously pursuing his effort to save others who were trapped.

Another similar brave act in the face of high risk and danger I had read in a book about history of Mysore. Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV had decided to build a Dam across Cauvery river near Kannambadi village in Srirangapatna. For survey purpose he had deputed an Indian engineer along with an young English officer. They took two coracles (round shaped boats) for the purpose and entered the river. In one coracle the Indian Engineer and the English Officer sat and moved while the other two Indian Surveyors took another coracle. As they rowed down the river there was a sudden rain and soon river was flooded with water gushing from upstream. The Indian Engineer and the Englishman, managed to land on an island. Soon they found the other coracle caught in the rushing flood waters and the coracle became uncontrollable. Without a second thought the young Englishman jumped into the waters to catch hold of the spinning coracle but in the process got himself drowned though saved the others. Such are the news that the journalists must chase, publish and follow-up providing the readers all that they want to know about that braveheart.

Thank you Air Marshal Nanda Cariappa for forwarding the story. Well, after all, you yourself are a braveheart and India knows your role as a fighter pilot during 1965 war with Pakistan.

TAIL-PIECE: *Here let me recall a famous conversation that took place between the Pakistan dictator Ayub Khan and the retired General of Indian Army Gen. K.M. Cariappa (now Field Marshal) when Fighter Pilot Nanda Cariappa was a Prisoner of War (PoW) in Pakistan.*

It is reported that when dictator Ayub Khan, who was an officer under Gen. K.M. Cariappa in the undivided India, came to know Nanda Cariappa was the son of his former boss, he immediately called Gen. Cariappa and offered to release his son unconditionally immediately. But what did father Cariappa say to Ayub Khan? "He may be my son, but more than that he is the son of India. Treat him the way you treat other PoWs."

Jai Hind

e-mail
voice@starofmysore.com

Devotees flock temples on New Year Day

No entry to Chamundi Hill temple

Devotees at Yoganarasimharaswamy Temple this morning.

Mysuru, Jan.1 (RK&DM)- Leaving behind nightmarish memories of COVID-19 pandemic hit 2020, devotees flocked major temples in the city in good numbers this morning to offer prayers seeking a happy, prosperous and peaceful New Year-2021.

People from all ages were seen visiting the temples from as early as 6 am braving the biting cold. Special pujas and rituals were held in all temples.

Major temples of the city such as Chandramouleshwara Temple, Hanuman and Lakshmi Venkataramanaswamy temple in Vontikoppal, Malai Mahadeshwara and Ganapathi temples in Vinayakanagar, Yoga Narasimhaswamy and Saptha Matruka Temples in Vijayanagar, Ganapathi temple in Gokulam, Annapoorneshwari and Subramanya temples in Hebbal, Panchamukhi temple on Irwin road, Maruti temple in T.K. Layout, Mahadeshwara and Chamundi temples in Kumbarakoppal, Agrahara 101 Ganapathi temple etc., saw a sizeable number of devotees, who lined up in queues to seek the blessings of the deities.

Expecting a large number of devotees, the temple managements had taken precautionary and safety measures. Hand sanitiser dispensers were kept at the entrance of the temples.

However, according to preliminary reports, the number of devotees this year was less as compared to the previous years.

Meanwhile, the Chamundeshwari Temple atop Chamundi Hill, which used to see thousands of devotees on New Year day, was closed for devotees today.

COVID vaccine dry run

(Continued from page 1)

The exercise include transportation of vaccine in ice boxes, syringes, ambulances, staff at vaccination point and others. Five persons would be posted at each Centre to work as security at main entry point, waiting room, vaccination table, observation place and exit point.

This is being done as per guidelines issued by the Union Health Ministry. Just like the day of polling, only one person is allowed inside the vaccination booth and everyone must wear face mask, sanitise hand and maintain social distance. Two persons will be on the vaccination desk. Another person at observation area will keep a watch on persons after vaccination, Ravi said.

He said the Health Ministry has clearly stated that all arrangements should be foolproof and the idea of dry run was to find out any lacunae so that it could be addressed during the real vaccination drive. The services of ASHA workers would also be taken not only during vaccine rehearsal but also during vaccination drive. Today's training programme includes handling of syringe, inoculation and post-vaccination precautions. Health experts would handle training session for all those who are drawn into this mock drill. The inoculation may be held in two sessions (morning and afternoon) as they need to keep watch on people after vaccination.

Dr. T. Amarnath, District Health Officer (DHO), Mysuru and Dr. L. Ravi, District Reproductive and Child Health Officer and Nodal Officer for COVID-19 Vaccination, during video-conference meet yesterday.

As vaccine administrators will play an important role, training of trainers and those who shall administer vaccine has been taken up. An ambulance would be stationed to show readiness to shift any patient in case he / she develops allergic symptoms after the shot, Nodal Officer for COVID-19 Vaccination said.

Classes 10, 12 reopen on a cautious note in Mysuru

- Institutions report 20 percent attendance; 50 percent expected from Jan. 4
- A few children wear body protection gowns, gloves and goggles

The staff at Ideal Jawa Rotary School checking the COVID test reports of students today. One of the students is seen wearing body protection gown and gloves as a safety measure.

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (RK&BCT)- Classes 10 and 12 reopened this morning for offline classes and institutions — both Government and private — reported 20 percent attendance. While Education Department officers say that there will be 100 percent attendance from Monday, Jan. 4 as today is Friday and a weekend is ahead, teachers are sceptic and say that only 40 to 50 percent students will attend classes.

The State Government allowed reopening of schools for students of Classes 10 and 12 from today. The Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Pre-University Education has made elaborate arrangements to conduct classes in adherence to COVID-19 advisory.

There were hardly six to eight students in each class and they were made to sit two per bench and 15 per room. In PU colleges, the subjects were bifurcated and while science and commerce classes were held in the morning, arts students were asked to come for the afternoon session.

Classes under Vidyagama programme was conducted from classes 6 to 9 and here too there was thin attendance. As the classes were not compulsory, many students preferred to stay at home for safety reasons. Parents too are reluctant to send the children to schools despite the tall claims of safety made by the Government.

While all the children who attended classes today wore masks, a few of them wore gloves and body protection gowns, hoods and goggles. Students were guided by schools not to touch their faces and not to share food and water. Thermal screening and sanitising of hands were done at the entrance and social distancing boxes were drawn wherever students had to stand in queues.

Students attending classes at Maharaja's College and Maharani's College said that it was difficult to access online classes at home due to poor internet connectivity and physical classes were best to perform well in exams.

Deputy Director of Public Instruction (DDPI) Panduranga told *Star of Mysore* that from Monday, 100 percent students would attend classes and arrangements have been made.

Teachers sceptic, parents scared

Teachers and parents are, however, sceptic and said that only 40 to 50 percent of the children would attend as there is a fear. "Parents are scared and though the Government has taken some precautions, they are not confident of sending children under risk and threat of the virus," a teacher said.

The Government must take several confidence-building measures to encourage parents to send the children to schools. "Physical classroom is much better than the virtual one, but I cannot take the risk of my daughter getting infected. Ministers make tall promises and our children are really at risk. Who will take the responsibility if there is a virus outbreak," questioned a parent.

"Parents have to give consent before sending their wards to schools, but they are showing a lukewarm response. Teachers are trying their best to motivate parents, but they are still hesitant," said a Government school teacher on condition of anonymity.

Some private schools and colleges have both offline and online system of classes. Parents pointed to the toll the reopening will take on teachers as the same topics will need to be covered separately for those who come to school and those who choose to remain at home.

As a precautionary measure, isolation rooms have been set up in every school to accommodate students who develop fever and cold and cough during classes.

Meanwhile, sale of junk food, fruits and all other kinds of eatables has been banned and no outsiders would be allowed to enter school premises during school hours.

Class in progress at Maharani's College.

Oil leak helps trace killer vehicle

(Continued from page 1)

The incident occurred at 12.10 am and the victim is **B.Y. Komalesh,** a native of Hassan and was staying in city along with his brother for professional reasons. Komalesh is the son of Yogesh, a resident of Bekkalli, K. Hosakote Hobli of Alur Taluk in Hassan District. Komalesh was staying in Vijayanagar Fourth Stage along with his brother at a rented accommodation. He worked with a construction company.

Komalesh

Accident just after 12 am

He was returning from office after working late into the night on his Pulsar bike (KA-13-EG-6155) and it was just past midnight as he was heading towards Vijayanagar Fourth Stage from the Third Stage. He had to cross the Ring Road to enter the Fourth Stage and while he was in the process, a speeding Swift Dezire yellow registration board car (KA-09-D-6650) rammed into Komalesh's bike. The car was proceeding from Bogadi to Hinkal.

One of the eye-witness who was also riding a bike saw the speeding car hit the bike with great force. The impact of the accident was such that Komalesh was flung from the bike and the car's front portion was mangled and its windshield broken. After the accident, the car sped away and the eye-witness chased the car.

Eye-witness chases car

After chasing the car till the Hinkal KSRTC Bus Stand, the eye-witness (name not made public yet) lost trace of the vehicle. Meanwhile, the V.V. Puram Traffic Police, who were on regular night patrolling, got information about the accident and a team rushed to the spot. Arrangement was made to shift Komalesh to hospital.

Komalesh had suffered severe head injuries and was profusely bleeding. He was rushed to Brindavan Hospital in Jayalakshmipuram and was later shifted to K.R. Hospital where he was declared brought dead.

Windshield shattered

The V.V. Puram Traffic Police interceptor vehicle proceeded towards Hinkal as information was passed by the eye-witness that the vehicle driver had escaped. The eye-witness told the Police that the windshield of the car had been shattered and the front portion of the car was mangled. The Police knew that the vehicle could not travel beyond a limited distance and began scouting for the killer car.

At one stretch of the Ring Road, Police found pieces of the windshield discarded by the side of the road. As the Police stopped to pick up the windshield pieces, they noticed an oil spill on the road. The oil from the damaged engine was leaking and the Police closely followed the oil trail. Lights of the interceptor vehicle were fully switched on as the leaked oil had to be traced.

Driver flees spot

The Police teams in three vehicles proceeded two-and-a-half kilometres on the road and found the car parked at a vacant plot by the side of the road. The driver, however, had fled from the spot. The registration number of the vehicle was traced and the Police have now got the information that the owner of the car stays in Nanjangud.

V.V. Puram Traffic Inspector Aruna Kumari, Sub-Inspector S.V. Sugunavathi, ASI Muralidhar, Interceptor vehicle driver Yogesh, Krishnamurthy and Inspector's vehicle driver Janardhan were part of the operation.

The family has been informed about the accident and they are rushing to Mysuru from Hassan. Komalesh's brother and his colleagues had gathered near K.R. Hospital mortuary.

Samskruthika Sourabha tomorrow

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (KS)- Samskruthika Sourabha, organised by Kannada and Culture Department will be inaugurated at Doddathayamma Open Air Theatre in Kumbarakoppal tomorrow (Jan. 2) at 4 pm by MP Pratap Simha. MLA L. Nagendra will preside.

Helipad Locked!

Where will the VIPs land now ?

- Gate comes up overnight at Lalitha Mahal Helipad
- MCC has no clue who installed it, but nameboard indicated property belongs to P. D. Wadiyar

Mysuru, Jan. 1- Just a day before the dawn of the new year, a gate has sprung up overnight at Lalitha Mahal Helipad area much to the surprise of morning walkers.

The iron gate has been installed right at the entrance of the road leading to the helipad. While the MCC did not have clarity as to who installed the gate, a nameboard beside the helipad reads **"This land is the private property of P.D. Wadiyar and legal action will be initiated against anyone found trespassing or conducting unauthorised transactions — Palace Estate Officer-Mysuru."**

It is learnt that following a Court order in favour of a private party, the area adjacent the helipad was secured with barbed wire fencing.

Now, an iron gate and the nameboard has been installed in the helipad area, which has left the authorities perplexed.

The Lalitha Mahal Helipad is the only public helipad in city and the other two sites to land a helicopter are — Infosys campus and Mandakalli Airport. Now, with Lalitha Mahal Helipad fenced and gated, one wonders where the politicians and VVIPs will land as the other two landing sites are far from the city centre. Also, with the helipad area being locked up, it is going to effect various other activities specially during *Ashada* Fridays when the sprawling grounds is turned into a parking area for the vehicles of thousands of devotees, who visit Chamundi Hill Temple.

Apart from this, the Lalitha Mahal Helipad area is also used to host the now popular annual kite flying contests, heli-rides during dasara and even motor sports.

Now, it is to be seen how the MCC will respond, as in recent times many private parties have won their cases in Court regarding ownership of the land in that area. Interestingly, the govt. has not yet appealed against the verdict. Will it?

Smart Meters installed

Power bills to be sent consumers' mobile phone numbers

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (KS)- Following installation of Smart Metres to houses and commercial establishments of power consumers by CESC at Gokulam, Mahadeshwara Layout, Brindavan Layout, Vontikoppal, Paduvarahalli and Jayalakshmipuram in V.V. Mohalla Sub-Division limits, power bills will be sent to the registered consumers' mobile phone numbers from January 2021 on 3rd of every month through SMS. Those who do not receive the bills through SMS are requested to visit V.V. Mohalla CESC Office and obtain the bill.

Consumers are urged to register their mobile phone numbers at the CESC Office and co-operate, according to a press release from the CESC Executive Engineer, V.V. Mohalla Division.

Youth goes missing

Satish Kumar

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (KS)- A 25-year-old youth, who left his house on his scooter (KA-09-HJ-5163) at about 10 pm on Dec. 26, has since gone missing. The missing youth is Satish Kumar, a resident of Mandakalli village in the taluk. Those having any information about the missing youth may contact Mysuru South Police Station on Ph: 0821-2444955 or call District Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2444800.

Obituary

Kalyanamma

Mysuru, Jan. 1 - Kalyanamma (88), wife of late Rangaiah and a resident of Medarkeri in K.R. Mohalla, passed away yesterday in city.

She leaves behind four sons, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were performed at the foot of Chamundi Hill today.

Kavitha

Kavitha (72), a resident of 3rd Cross, Shivaji Road in N.R. Mohalla, passed away yesterday at a private hospital in city following heart attack.

She leaves behind husband Kishandas, sons K. Vijay, K. Sanjay and K. Kiran, daughter-in-law Monica Sanjay and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were performed at the foot of Chamundi Hill yesterday evening.

Syed Iqthedar Ahmed

Syed Iqthedar Ahmed (74), a resident of Ashoka Road in Lashkar Mohalla, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind four sons, daughters-in-law, one daughter, son-in-law and a host of relatives and friends. Namaz-e-Janaza was held at Masjid-e-Azam on Ashoka Road this morning followed by the burial at the Muslim Burial Grounds near Tipu Circle.

H.K. Raghavendra Rao

H.K. Raghavendra Rao (86), retired Senior Supervisor at BSNL and a resident of Telecom Layout on Udayagiri Main Road, passed away yesterday morning at his residence in city.

He leaves behind sons M.R. Anand, M.R. Srivatsababu, M.R. Badriprasad and M.R. Venkatesh and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were performed at the foot of Chamundi Hill last evening.

Kushalnagar Taluk formed; Kodagu now has five taluks

Government issues final notification; process of infrastructure identification, appointment of officers set in motion

Bengaluru/Kushalnagar, Jan.1 (Akshay&BCT)- The Government has notified — final notification — Kushalnagar Taluk and with this, a new Taluk has come into existence in Kodagu. Kodagu now has five Taluks — Madikeri, Virajpet, Ponnampet, Somwarpet and Kushalnagar.

The Government had recently notified Ponnampet Taluk and it came into existence with the infrastructure being developed at Ponnampet, the taluk headquarters. The Kushalnagar Taluk has been carved out of Somwarpet Taluk.

For Kushalnagar Taluk, the initial notification was issued on Nov. 20, 2020 by the Revenue Department and the notification was in force for 30 days within which people could file objections, if any. As there were no objections, the final notification has been issued yesterday.

The demand for a separate taluk has been growing over the years since residents find travelling 27-km to Somwarpet to get their work done to be a waste of time.

According to notification, the boundaries of the proposed Kushalnagar Taluk will include Mysuru Taluk of Mysuru District (East), Madikeri Taluk of Kodagu District (West), Somwarpet Taluk of Kodagu District (North) and Virajpet Taluk of Kodagu District (South).

Kodagu resorts, home stays grapple with tourist boom

Severe shortage of staff forces them not to accept full bookings

Post-lockdown, workers find coffee picking, masonry more profitable

Kushalnagar, Jan.1 (Akshay &BCT)- Since the last five to six days there has been a tourist boom in the hilly district of Kodagu but the hotels, resorts and home stay industry is finding it extremely difficult to handle tourist rush. Reason: Shortage of workforce mostly young men and women with education upto class 10 or PUC.

So much so that some of the resorts and home stays are not taking mass bookings but allowing minimum occupancy as they cannot provide the desired service to the guests. Most of the labour force working in these establishments has diversified into other professions like masonry, coffee picking and some have even started small-time business like tender coconut vending, vegetable and fruit selling.

The hospitality industry in Kodagu that had turned its back on migrant workers for more than six months now want them back. Sadly, the labourers are not coming back as they have found alternative means of living.

UNABLE TO PAY SALARIES

When the lockdown was imposed and economic activity came to a grinding halt, these workers emerged on the streets and they had nowhere to go. While some have gone to their native States never to come back, some have chosen other jobs. During lockdown, many resorts, hotels and home stays did not allow the workers into their premises and some did not even pay salaries.

Now, with no signs of the pandemic abating, they have flung their gates open, but few workers are trickling in. "We have had a deluge of bookings since the last four days and we have never been approached by tourists in this way since February last. Unfortunately we cannot cater to our guests as the six migrant workers who were here have gone back to Uttar Pradesh," an IT professional in Mysuru who owns a home stay in Kodagu told *Star of Mysore*. She has requested anonymity.

LOCAL WORKERS PRESENT

There are over 800 registered home stays in Kodagu and over 60 hotels, resorts and tourist homes including small and big. They were primarily dependent on local workers for cooking as knowledge of Kodava cuisine and the skill to prepare is a mandatory criterion for a home stay or a resort. Other workers and support staff were from North Indian States, especially from Uttar Pradesh, Assam and Bengal.

Ratheesh, proprietor of Dubare Inn Resorts and Hotel said that during lockdown, he was not in a position to pay salaries for months together. "Now I am not getting workers despite tourist boom. Since the last three to four days, over 2,000 people are eating at my restaurant daily but there is a severe shortage of cleaners, suppliers and dish-wash employees. Somehow we are managing," he said.

COFFEE PICKING WORK MORE PROFITABLE

Many hotel, resort and home stay workers have diversified into coffee picking as now is the season in Kodagu and the returns are handsome. They get a wage of Rs. 500 per day if they work from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm, excluding 30 minutes of lunch break. Compare this with the work in resorts that starts at 6 am and goes on till 8 or 9 pm and the salary is at the most Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 8,000 per month.

The regular or permanent estate coffee pickers are paid Rs. 350 and annual bonus. They have a holiday on Sunday and are provided with rations too.

Pachchu, a resident of Suntikoppa, was an accountant at a resort and was paid a salary of Rs. 8,000 per month. "I was sacked during lockdown and now I have taken up masonry and centring works. I get a minimum wage of Rs. 500 per day and I now take home Rs. 15,000 per month. This work is more convenient and my family is happy," he said.

PAID HALF SALARIES, GAVE GROCERIES

Cheeyanda Sathya who owns Ibni Spring cottage resort in Madikeri, however, is not facing any labour crisis as he took care of workers during lockdown. "I paid half the salary and supplied groceries to all the 10 staff. They have not left me and I am running the resort now with their help," he said.

As per a report from the Kodagu Deputy Commissioner, before lockdown, there were over 5,000 migrant workers from North Indian and Western States. Over 1,000 to 2,000 workers were from districts of Hassan, Mysuru and Chikkamagalur. A part of the population was from Kerala. After lockdown was imposed, 90 percent of them retuned homes.

As it is a coffee season, some of the workers around the district like areas from Periyapatna, Hunsur, Boodithittu, Bettadapura, Avarthi, Kallahalli, Hampapura, Kampalapura and Panchavalli are coming to estates daily and they are being picked up and dropped back in vehicles by estate drivers.

WORD OF THE DAY

Fainéant

Pronunciation: fey-nee-uhnt.
Meaning: Idle; indolent.
Origin: The English adjective and noun fainéant "indolent, idle; an idler, a do-nothing" is plainly French. The earlier French spelling fait-nient, literally meaning "he does nothing," is a folk etymology of Old French faignant "idler, sluggard," the present participle of faindre, feindre "to shirk," source of English faint and feign. Fainéant entered English in the first half of the 17th century.
Example: He became a very fainéant Pope, occupying his leisure hours, not discreditably, with literature and learned men, but making of those hours a far larger portion of his life than was consistent with the duty of a supreme head of the Church. —Thomas Adolphus Trollope, The Papal Enclaves, As They Were And As They Are, 1876

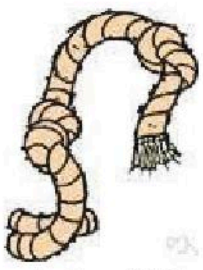
THE ODD WORD

Familistery

House for communal living.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Fag end



Meaning: The remnant of something, especially the part left after the best part has been used.
Origin: For most of the 20th century in the UK cigarettes were known colloquially as fags and a fag-end was the name of the end part of the cigarette, after most of it had been smoked. It feels intuitively that the cigarette is the source of the more general term 'fag end' meaning 'the left-over part of something'.
That's what I was expecting to find when I started to research the expression. However, it turns out that, as well a 'cigarette', the word fag has several other meanings, which are:
The end of a roll or bale of cloth.
A parasitic insect that infects sheep.
The junior member of a group who performs menial tasks.
A homosexual man (a shortened form of 'faggot').
So, it could be that 'fag end' derives from one of those meanings. A little more delving showed that the 'fag end' was the name given to the last piece of cloth on a roll well before cigarettes were thought of. For example, the term is found in this piece from the English preacher George Bury's book of sermons The Narrow Way, 1607: Mercers and Drapers neuer shew vnto their chapmen the middle part & fag end of their wares, but onely the vpper part thereof which commonly is very good.

QUOTE BOX

In this life we cannot do great things. We can only do small things with great love. **—Mother Teresa**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

PLOT

Answer: Plot thickens.

SUDOKU

5					2	6		
		8	7	4				2
4		6	3					
1	8			7			2	4
					1	5		3
9				6	8	1		
		2	1					6

Answer to previous puzzle

3	5	8	9	6	2	1	7	4
6	2	4	5	1	7	8	9	3
1	7	9	8	4	3	6	5	2
8	3	5	1	9	6	4	2	7
7	6	2	3	5	4	9	8	1
4	9	1	2	7	8	3	6	5
9	1	6	4	2	5	7	3	8
5	4	3	7	8	9	2	1	6
2	8	7	6	3	1	5	4	9

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

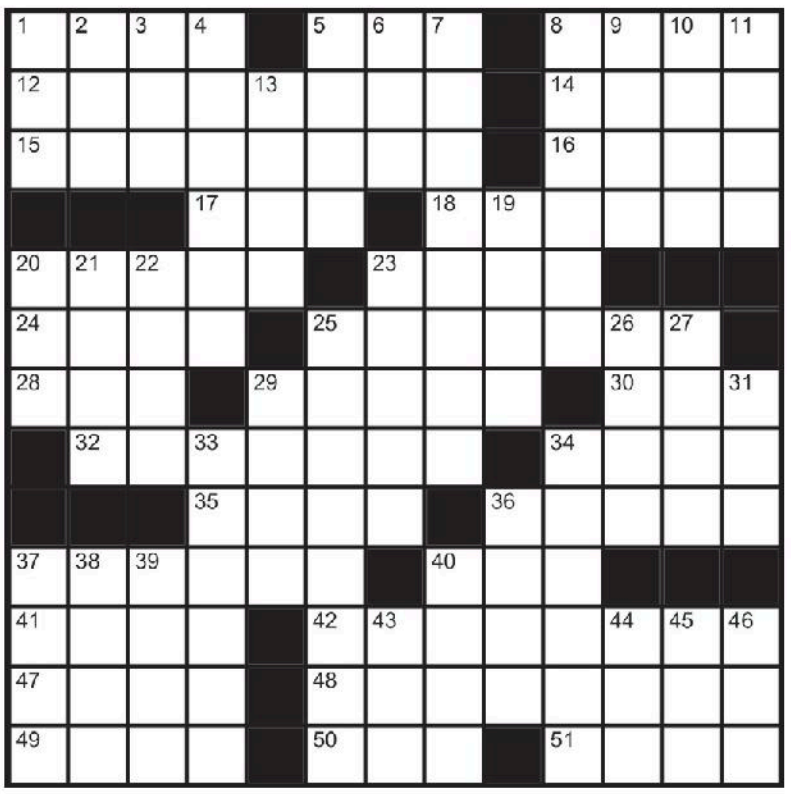
1 As well as
5 Computer capability for short
8 Commanded
12 Mr Putin of Russia
14 Bitter fruit
15 Contagious skin disease
16 Little ___ : Dickensian character?
17 Become firm
18 Probable
20 A muscle contraction
23 Asian desert
24 Bollywood's ___ Malini
25 Least
28 Before, for the poet
29 Colloquially speaking massive blocks of ice floating in the ocean
30 Line or sequence
32 Acts creatively
34 Bhajan maestro __ Jalota
35 Bible book abbr.
36 Start
37 Chinese province - "shines" anagram?
40 Equated Monthly Installment in short
41 Put on cargo
42 One who hopes for the best
47 Incite
48 Fed and tended
49 Jan van der ____ : famous Dutch artist?
50 Opp. direction to NNW
51 ___ through : ooze out ?

DOWN

1 Avinash's pet name?
2 Law professor's degree
3 Plant juice or any vital body fluid
4 Black Sea port in Ukraine
5 Issue or give out
6 Use a spade
7 Lengthens or protracts?
8 ___ Chandra Chatterji : creator of Vande Mataram?
9 Out of the wind
10 A poppet, or puppet
11 Hard to grasp
13 Article
19 A wading bird
20 A female person
21 Persian fairy
22 Usually the last word of a prayer
23 Measurement around
25 Indicates, points out or alludes
26 Big vases
27 Expression of disdain
29 Good Queen ___ : Elizabeth I?
31 waypoint
33 Superficial refinement
34 Hostility shown in speech or action
36 Fail to include
37 Shantytown
38 Mammal of the rabbit family
39 Brink or border
40 "To be" in Paris?
43 A fluid product of inflammation
44 Anger, literally speaking?
45 ___ through : penetrate to the true nature of ?
46 Telegu Desam Party, acronym

WEDNESDAY'S ANSWER

Z	E	B	R	A	S	■	M	I	L	I	E	U
O	■	L	O	C	K	■	E	C	O	■	■	S
M	■	A	C	H	I	L	L	E	S	■	■	A
B	B	C	■	Y	I	E	L	D	■	B	A	G
I	R	K	S	■	N	E	O	■	L	A	D	E
E	A	L	I	N	G	■	W	O	U	N	D	S
■	■	I	T	O	■	■	■	I	R	A	■	■
C	A	S	I	N	O	■	G	L	E	B	E	S
A	L	T	N	■	U	M	A	■	D	H	O	W
C	B	S	■	S	T	O	U	T	■	A	N	I
T	■	■	I	N	D	I	G	E	N	T	■	T
U	■	■	R	O	I	■	E	M	I	T	■	C
S	H	R	E	W	D	■	S	P	L	A	S	H



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

ZBADXH DCSJA DBAJ'Y AJSFTE YS XDQA

NSFB LACCN PFCC.

TODAY'S CLUE: D EQUALS A

Wednesday's Cryptoquip: Originality is the fine art of remembering what you hear but forgetting where you heard it.

EVENTS TODAY (JAN. 1)

- **JSS Mysore Urban Haat and Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Government of India, Ministry of Textiles, Cauvery Handlooms, Bengaluru and the Department of Handloom,Textiles and Commerce; INDEXT-c, Government of Gujarat:** Special Handloom Expo and Gujarat Handicrafts Utsav, JSS Mysore Urban Haat, Ring Road, Hebbal Industrial Area, **up to 9 pm.**
- **Vasundhara Performing Arts Centre (VPAC), Mysuru:** Vasundharotsava-2020, 34th edition of national festival of classical dance and music, Karnatak Vocal by Vid. Manasa Nayana, **5.30 pm;** Bharatanatyam by Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy — 'Shabari' based on 'Epic Ramayan' (Concept and script - Vidu. Dr. Jyothi Shankar; Music - Vid. Srivatsa of Bengaluru; Choreography - Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy), Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha, JLB Road, **6.30 pm to 8.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (JAN. 2)

- **JSS Mysore Urban Haat and Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Government of India, Ministry of Textiles, Cauvery Handlooms, Bengaluru and the Department of Handloom,Textiles and Commerce; INDEXT-c, Government of Gujarat:** Special Handloom Expo and Gujarat Handicrafts Utsav, JSS Mysore Urban Haat, Ring Road, Hebbal Industrial Area, **10 am to 9 pm.**
- **Rangayana, Mysuru:** 'Raaga Rangayana' - Monthly programme, 'Bendre Beragu,' Ramachandra G. Hadapada and Shweta Prabhu will perform, Vidu. H.R. Leelavathi chief guest, writer G.P. Basavaraju will be present, Bhoomigeeta, Rangayana premises, **6.30 pm.** [Tickets are priced at Rs. 50]

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

Padma Theatre Ph: 2521923

Solo Brathuke So Better (Te) - 4 Shows
10.30 am, 1.30 pm, 4.30, 7.30 pm

Balaji Theatre Ph: 2497199

Vanguard (E) - 3 shows

DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Rajathantra (K)	(S-1)	1.45 pm, 4.30 pm
Solo Brathuke So Better (Te)	(S-1)	7.15 pm, 9.55 pm
	(S-2)	11.10 am, 4.40 pm
	(S-4)	1.45 pm
Wonder Women - 1984 (E)	(S-2)	1.40 pm
	(S-3)	10.45 am, 4.30 pm
	(S-4)	6.50 pm, 9.55 pm
Act 1978 (K)	(S-2)	7.15 pm
	(S-3)	1.45 pm
	(S-4)	4.15 pm
Ram Prasad Ki Tehrvi (H)	(S-3)	7.30 pm, 9.55 pm

INOX LIVE THE MOVIE Ph: 2533444 / 2533456

Wonder Women - 1984 (E)	(S-2)	11.30 am, 3.00 pm
		6.30 pm, 9.55 pm
	(S-3)	8.45 pm
Solo Brathuke So Better (Te)	(S-3)	11.45 am, 2.35 pm
		5.40 pm
	(S-4)	9.15 pm
Rajathantra (K)	(S-4)	12.00 noon, 6.05 pm
Ram Prasad Ki Tehrvi (H)	(S-4)	3.10 pm

MVC MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Rajatantra (K)	(S-1)	11.00 am
	(S-2)	4.30 pm
	(S-4)	1.30 pm
Solo Brathuke So Better (Te)	(S-1)	1.45 pm
	(S-2)	11.30 pm
	(S-4)	4.15 pm
Ramprasad Ki Tehrvi (H)	(S-1)	4.30 pm
	(S-4)	7.00 pm
Wonder Woman 1984 (E)	(S-3)	10.30 am, 1.30 pm,
		4.30 pm, 7.30 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here. **The other multiplexes and single screen theatres are yet to open.**

Online music classes of
Chowdaiah's Kritis from tomorrow

Vidu. Sukanya *Vidu. Padma* *Vidu. Rajalakshmi* *Vidu. Srilatha* *Vidu. Vasudha* *Vid. Chandan*

Mysuru, Jan. 1 - As part of 125th birth anniversary of Piteelu Chowdaiah and to propagate his compositions, Ganabharathi, Kuvempunagar, has organised a series of online teaching programme of Chowdaiah's Kritis beginning from tomorrow.

This is a part of the online teaching programme, which Ganabharathi has already launched and will be broadcast every Monday and Thursday at 9 am both on the facebook page of Ganabharathi and YouTube.

Chowdaiah

Reputed teachers — Vidushi Sukanya Prabhakar, Vidushi Padma Gurudatt, Vidushi G.S. Rajalakshmi, Vidushi R.N. Srilatha, Vidushi Vasudha Keshav and Vidwan Chandan Kumar — are going to teach the students online. Nearly 16 compositions of Chowdaiah will be taught and the scripts of the compositions are available on Ganabharathi website. So far, Ganabharathi has webcast 22 sessions of music lessons.

On Jan. 10, a day-long programme is organised, where well-known musicians will render the compositions of T. Chowdaiah. Ganabharathi is also bringing out a special issue of Tillana to showcase the life and the musical achievements of Chowdaiah. For details contact Mob: 99000-82773.

Silk India expo begins

Mysuru, Jan. 1 (KS) - New Crafts has organised Silk India-2021, an exhibition-cum-sale of vast collections of handlooms, dress materials and sarees from across the country from today at Nanjaraj Bahadur Choultry on Vinobha Road in city.

The exhibition brings together rural weavers from across the country who are showcasing vast collections of handlooms, dress materials and sarees, which includes cotton and silk handlooms of Karnataka, West Bengal cotton sarees, Jewellery — silver, kundan and meenakari, textile, handmade paper, precious and semi-precious stones, gemstone, paintings, leather craft, hand crafted items — wood, lac, glass, brass, silver and gold, handmade jewellery, carpets, durries, mojaris/jutis, marble crafts, textiles of colourful fabrics like Bandhani and Bandhej of Gujarat and much more.

The expo will be held till Jan. 17 and is open for public from 10 am to 8 pm daily.

Special discount offer
on ready-made garments till tomorrow

Mysuru, Jan.1- Due to public demand, the special discount sale on ready-made garments being held at Hotel Pai Vista on B.N. Road in city has been extended till tomorrow (Jan. 2).

New stocks of over 50,000 varieties of ladies, gents and kids branded clothes, including T-shirts, jeans, bermudas, kurthis, pyjamas and other designer wears are available.

To clear the stocks, the company is offering huge discounts on all ready-made garments.

People can avail the discount offer today and tomorrow from 10 am to 9 pm.

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ಶ್ರೀಚಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಮೃಗಾಲಯ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

No.MYZ/ACT/ಒಣಗಿದ ಮರ/2020–21 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.12.2020

ದರಪಟ್ಟಿ–ಕಂ–ಹರಾಜು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ ಶ್ರೀಚಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಮೃಗಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಳೆದ ಹಲವಾರು ತಿಂಗಳುಗಳಿಂದ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಲಾಗಿರುವ ಉರುವಲು ದರ್ಜೆಯ ಲಾಟ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ದರಪಟ್ಟಿ–ಕಂ–ಹರಾಜು ಮೂಲಕ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು. ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.01.2021 ರಂದು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.30 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ ಮೊಹರು ಮಾಡಿದ ದರಪಟ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.10000 ಗಳನ್ನು ವಲಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಗಾರ್ಡನ್ ವಿಭಾಗ) ಅವರಿಗೆ ನೀಡುವುದು. ಅದೇ ದಿನ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಹರಾಜು ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು. ನಂತರ ಹಾಜರಿರುವ ದರಪಟ್ಟಿದಾರರ ಸಮಕ್ಷಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರ ಅಥವಾ ಅವರಿಂದ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಪಡೆದ ಇತರ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ದರಪಟ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆದು ದಾಖಲಿಸುವರು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯುವುದು.

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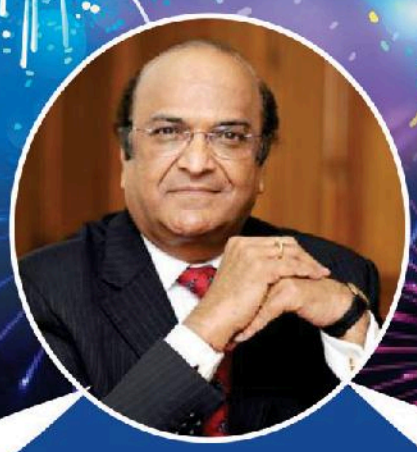

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